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[- it has a] means [(800, 804, 805, 806, 810, 811)] of dialoguing with [the] a user adapted to transmit questions to the user and to receive information from [him] the user in response, and

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5. (Amended) [Device] The device according to Claim 4, [characterised in that the] wherein said memory [(804)] is adapted [also] to also store, associated with each item of information received, an item of information representing the user who supplied it.

6. (Amended) [Device] The device according to [either one of Claims 4 or 5, characterised in that the] Claim 4, wherein said memory [(804)] is adapted [also] to also store associated with each item of information received, an item of information representing [the] a concerned document [concerned].

7. (Amended) [Device] The device according to [any one of Claims 1 to 6 characterised in that it has a] Claim 1, including pilot updating means [(800, 804, 805) adapted] for:

[-] on the one hand to detect that a pilot of the input/output means intended to implement the [said] processing is not available or is not up to date in a memory [(804)], and

[-] on the other hand, to read the [said] pilot in another memory.

8. (Amended) [Device] The device according to [any one of Claims 1 to 7, characterised in that] Claim 1, including:

[- it has a] means [(800, 804, 805) of] for checking [the] an availability of input/output means adapted to transmit an item of information representing

unavailability for processing of the [said] data, when the means [(807)] intended to process the [said] data is not available for this purpose; and

[-] the determination means [(800, 804, 805)] is adapted to take into account the unavailability information in order to determine [the] a configuration of another input/output means [(809) able to implement] for implementing the [said] processing of the [said] data.

9. (Amended) [Device] A device for determining [the] conditions of [a] processing [liable] to be carried out on data of a document, by at least one input/output means [(907, 909)] which uses a physical quantity, [characterised in that it has] comprising:

[- a] quantity determination means [of] for determining at least two quantities related to the [said] document [(900, 904, 905)],

[- a] means [of] for estimating [the] content of [this] the document [(900, 904, 905), adapted to take] for taking into account each [said quantity] of the at least two quantities, and

[- a] pilot configuration determination means [(900, 904, 905) adapted to take] for taking into account the content of the document in order to determined [the] a configuration of the pilot of the input output means intended to implement [this] the processing.

10. (Amended) [Device] The device according to Claim 9, [characterised in that] wherein the quantity

determination means is adapted to scrutinise data of the [said] document which are directly accessible to a user.

11. (Amended) [Device] The device according to [either one of Claims 9 or 10, characterised in that] Claim 9, wherein the quantity determination means is adapted to function without using a software application able to make it possible to modify the content of the [said] document.

12. (Amended) [Device] The device according to [any one of Claim 9 to 11, characterised in that] Claim 9, wherein the quantity determination means is adapted to read at least one quantity in a file.

13. (Amended) [Device] The device according to [any one of Claims 9 to 12, characterised in that] Claim 9, wherein:

[-] the processing [can be] is carried out by at least input/output means [(907, 909)], and

[-] the pilot configuration determination means is adapted to select an input/output means designed to implement the [said] process.

14. (Amended) [Device] The device according to [any one of Claim 9 to 13, characterised in that] wherein the quantity determination means is adapted so that one of the [said] quantities represents [the] a number of pages in the document represented by the [said] document.

15. (Amended) [Device] A device according to [any one of Claims 9 to 14, characterised in that] Claim 9, wherein the quantity determination means is adapted so that

one of the [said] quantities represents [the] a number of digital information items in the [said] document.

16. (Amended) [Device] A device according to [any one of Claims 9 to 15, characterised in that] Claim 9, wherein the quantity determination means is adapted so that one of the [said] quantities represents a time taken to open the [said] document by software able to modify [the] content thereof.

17. (Amended) [Device] A device according to [any one of Claims 9 to 16, characterised in that] Claim 9, wherein the quantity determination means is adapted so that one of the [said] quantities represents a degree of compression [able] to be obtained on the [said] document using predetermined compression software.

18. (Amended) [Device] The device according to [any one of Claims 9 to 17, characterised in that] Claim 9, wherein the quantity determination means is adapted so that one of the [said] quantities represents a period of time necessary for [the] compression of the [said] document, by predetermined compression software.

19. (amended) [Device] The device according to [any one of Claims 9 to 18, characterised in that it includes] Claim 9, including a means of determining parts [990, 904, 905]] of the [said] document, [and in that] wherein:

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[-] the determination means is adapted to determine at least two quantities relating to each of the [said] parts,

[-] the content estimation means is adapted to estimate [the] content of each of the [said] parts, taking into account each [said] quantity relating to the [said] part, and

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[-] the configuration determination means is adapted to take into account [the] content of the [said] part in order to determine the configuration of the pilot of the input output means intended to implement [this] the processing on the [said] part.

20. (Amended) [Printer.] A printer characterised in that it has a device according to [any one of Claims 1 to 19] Claim 1.

21. (Amended) [Facsimile] A facsimile machine, characterised in that it has a device according to [any one of Claims 1 to 19] Claim 1.

22. (Amended) [Modulator] A modulator- demodulator, characterised in that it has a device according to [any one of Claims 1 to 19] Claim 1.

23. (Amended) [Display] A display screen, characterised in that it has a device according to [any one of Claims 1 to 19] Claim 1.

24. (Amended) [Photographic] A photographic apparatus, characterised in that it has a device according to [any one of Claim 1 to 19] Claim 1.

25. (Amended) [Camera] A camera having an image sensor, characterised in that it includes a device according to [any one of Claims 1 to 19] Claim 1.

26. (Amended) [Method for] A method of determining conditions for processing [liable] to be carried out on data in a file [(104)], by at least one input/output means [(111, 807, 809)] which modulates a physical quantity, [characterised in that it has] comprising:

[-] a step [(105, 106)] of determining [the] semantics of the processing of the [said] data, and

[-] a pilot configuration determination step [(107)] during which, without modifying the [said] data [(104)], the semantics of the [said] processing of the [said] data is taken into account [in order to determined], of determining the configuration of the pilot of the input/output means designated to implement [this] the processing.

27. (Amended) [Method] The method according to Claim 26, [characterised in that] wherein:

[-] the processing is [able to be] carried out by at least two input/output means [(807, 809)], and

[-] the pilot configuration determination [operation (107)] step includes a step of [selection of] selecting the input/output means intended to implement the [said] processing.

28. (Amended) [Method] The method according to [either one of Claims 26 or 17, characterised in that] including:

[- it includes] an operation [(105)] step of dialoguing with [the] a user during which questions are transmitted to the user and information is received from [him] the user in response, and

[-] wherein the configuration determination [operation (107)] step also includes taking into account the information received in a response from the user in order to determine the pilot configuration.

29. (Amended) [Method] The method according to Claim 28, [characterised in that it includes] including a step [(105, 207)] of storing information received in a response from the user.

30. (Amended) [Method] The method according to Claim 29, [characterised in that the] wherein said storage step [(207)] also includes associating, with each item of information received, [and] an item of information representing the user who supplied it.

31. (Amended) [Method] The method according to [either one of Claims 29 or 30, characterised in that the] Claim 29, wherein said storage step [(207)] also includes associating, with each item of information received, an item of information representing [the] a concerned document [concerned].

32. (Amended) [Method] The method according to [any one of Claims 26, 31, characterised in that it includes] Claim 26, including a pilot updating step [(101, 102, 602, 605)] during which:

[-] on the one hand [it is detected] detecting that a pilot of the input/output means intended to implement the [said] processing is not available or is not up to date in a memory, and

[-] on the other hand, the [said] pilot is read in another memory.

33. (Amended) [Method] The method according to [any one of Claims 26 to 32, characterised in that] Claim 26, including:

[- it includes an operation of] checking [the] availability of input/output means [(807, 809)] during which an item of information representing unavailability for the processing of the [said] data is transmitted, when the means [(807)] intended to process the [said] data is not available for this purpose; and

[-] during the [determination operation (107)] determining step, taking into account, the unavailability information [is taken into account] in order to determine the configuration of another input output means [(809) able to . implement] for implementing the [said] processing of the [said] data.

34. (Amended) [Method] A method of determining [the] conditions of a processing [liable] to be carried out

on data of a document, by at least one input/output means [(907, 909)] which uses a physical quantity, [characterised in that it includes] comprising:

[- an operation] a quantity determination step of determining at least two quantities related to the [said] document [(1003, 1004, 1006, 1007, 1010, 1011, 1020)],

[- an operation] a step of estimating [the] content of [this] the document, taking into account each [said] quantity [(1005, 1008, 1009, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1020, 1022), and

[-] a configuration determination [operation (1015, 1016, 1023, 1024)] step of, during which the content of the document is taken into account [in order to determine], determining the configuration of the pilot of the input/output means intended to implement [this] the processing.

35. (Amended) [Method] The method according to Claim 34, [characterised in that] wherein the quantity determination [operation] step includes [an operation] a step of scrutinising [(103, 1004, 1006, 1007, 1010, 1011, 1020)] the data of the [said] document which are directly accessible to a user.

36. (Amended) [Method] The method according to [either one of Claims 34 or 35, characterised in that] wherein the quantity determination [operation (1003, 1004, 1006, 1007, 1020) can be] step is carried out without having

to use a software application able to make it possible to modify [the] content of the [said] document.

37. (Amended) [Method] The method according to [any one of Claims 34 to 36, characterised in that the] Claim 34, wherein the quantity determination [operation] step includes [an operation (1003, 1004, 1007)] a step of reading at least one quantity in a file.

38. (Amended) [Method] The method according to [any one of Claims 34 to 37, characterised in that] Claim 34, wherein:

[-] the processing is [able to be] carried out by at least two input/output means [(907, 909)], and

[-] the pilot configuration determination [operation] step includes [an operation (1015, 1023)] a step of selecting the input/output means intended to implement the [said] processing.

39. (Amended) [Method] The method according to [any one of Claims 34 to 38, characterised in that], wherein during the quantity determination [operation (1003)] step, one of the [said] quantities represents [the] a number of pages in the document represented by the [said] document.

40. (Amended) [Method] A method according to [any one of Claims 34 to 39, characterised in that] Claim 34, wherein during the quantity determination operation [(1004)], one of the [said] quantities represents [the] a number of digital information items in the [said] document.

41. (Amended) [Method] The method according to
[any one of Claims 34 to 40, characterised in that] Claim 34,
wherein during the quantity determination [operation (1010,
1011)] step one of the [said] quantities represents a time
taken to open the [said] document by software able to modify
[the] content thereof.

42. (Amended) [Method] The method according to
[any one of the Claims 34 to 41, characterised in that] Claim
34, wherein during the quantity determination [operation
(1006, 1007)] step one of the [said] quantities represents a
degree of compression [able] to be obtained on the [said]
document by using predetermined compression software.

43. (Amended) [Method] The method according to
[any one of the Claims 34 to 42, characterised in that] Claim
34, wherein during the quantity determination [operation
(1006, 1007)] step one of the [said] quantities represents a
time necessary for [the] compression of the [said] document,
by predetermined compression software.

44. (Amended) [Method] The method according to
[any one of Claims 34 to 43, characterised in that it
includes an operation 91017, 1025)] Claim 34, including a
step of printing the [said] document.

45. (Amended) [Method] The method according to
[any one of Claim 34 to 43, characterised in that it includes
an operation] Claim 34, including a step of compressing the
data representing the [said] document.

46. (Amended) [Method] The method according to [any one of Claims 34 to 45, characterised in that it includes an operation] Claim 34, including a step of determining parts of the document [(1018)] and, for each of the [said] parts, performing:

[- an operation] a step of determining at least two quantities related to the [said] part [(1020)],

[- an operation] a step of estimating [the] content of the [said] part [(1021, 1022)], taking into account each quantity related to the [said] part, and

[-] a configuration determination [operation (1023, 1024)] step of, during which the content of the [said] part is taken into account [in order to determine], determining the configuration of the pilot of the input/output means intended to implement [this] the processing on the [said] part.

47. (Amended) [Method] The method according to Claim 46, [characterized in that] wherein during the part determination [operation (1018)] step, pages of the document are determined.

REMARKS

By this preliminary amendment, each of the active Claims 1-47 have been amended to make them clearer and to ensure that they conform fully to the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1, 9, 26 and 34 are the only independent claims.